

# ANNUAL REPORT

## SEPTEMBER 2024 TO AUGUST 2025

### BARTON, BRIGG and WOLDS CIRCUIT

**Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The Barton, Brigg and Wolds Circuit exists to advance the mission of the Methodist Church throughout the Circuit by providing support for the sixteen churches in line with the Connexional priorities. The Circuit comprises of 16 local Methodist churches served by a ministerial team of an ordained Superintendent Minister plus a few part time active retired ministers, administrator and volunteers.

The Circuit is led by a Superintendent Minister assisted by Supernumerary Ministers and a part time administrator.

The Circuit Meeting, which met 5 times during the year, sets the policy for the Circuit, serving as a link between the Lincolnshire Methodist District, the Methodist Conference and the Connexional team on the one hand and the local churches on the other. It has oversight of all Circuit affairs, formulating and promoting policies, through its various officers and committees to assist the mission of the Church, to give inspiration to the leaders in the churches and to ensure the interrelation of all aspects of the Church's life throughout the Circuit. The members of the Circuit meeting are the trustees of the charity registered with the Charity Commission. As a registered charity, the Circuit takes seriously its responsibilities to the Charity Commissioners and adheres to their guidance concerning public benefit in relation to charitable objectives.

The day-to-day work of the Circuit is carried out by the Circuit Leadership Team, which consists of the Superintendent Minister, seven volunteer Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Safeguarding Officer, with the additional assistance of a Circuit Bookkeeper, a Circuit Administrator and Circuit Minute Secretary.

Grimsby and Cleethorpes Circuit kindly allowed Rev. K Deacons to work for one day a week in the BB&W Circuit, focusing on Caistor, Market Rasen and Middle Rasen.

#### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

**Barton, Brigg and Wolds Circuit Mission Statement**    September 2024

With Jesus at the centre of our lives our mission is to live by faith, be known by love, give voice to hope and be a growing, evangelistic, justice seeking Circuit.

We do this by supporting our congregations to express the joy of being followers of Jesus and to rediscover our Methodist roots through embedding *a Methodist Way of Life* throughout the circuit.

We support each church to:

- Develop a life of prayer both individually and corporately
- Study the Bible together
- Gain confidence in talking to one another about their Christian experience

We believe that worship is the powerhouse of the church and encourage each congregation to:

- Be adventurous in their worship
- Develop imaginative ways to participate in prayer
- Encourage members to share what God is doing in their lives

Energised and empowered by Sunday worship we seek to make Jesus known in our local communities by:

- Encouraging our members to be a Christian presence in existing community groups
- Making our buildings available for community use
- Working with other denominations to share resources for mission
- Leading collective worship in local schools
- Enabling members to speak about their Christian faith beyond the walls of the church

We work together for a more just world:

- Looking to see where God is already at work and joining in
- Considering world issues from a Christian perspective and applying biblical principles to understand them and take action
- Taking care of God's creation by stewardship of resources in an eco-friendly way and committing to prayer and action
- By providing practical help, for example through participating in food bank provision, running projects to tackle loneliness and isolation amongst older people and to improve the mental health and educational outcomes of young people in our schools.
- Joining with others, Christian and non-Christian, to tackle issues of common concern

We do none of this in our own strength; we rely upon the grace of God, the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and the example of Christ who is with each one of us in this pilgrimage of faith.

### **Achievements and Performance**

As the Circuit staffing had been reduced to one full time Minister from September 2024, Dr. Richard Atkinson the Circuit Lay Pastoral worker was asked to increase his hours from 25 to 35 hours per week for the year September 2024 to August 2025. His focus to continue to be on pastoral visiting and officiating at funerals, as this has been of considerable help to the Ministerial team since his appointment and would be of value to the Superintendent enabling him to focus on all other aspects that his role entails. To further assist with pastoral care in the Circuit, two lay Funeral Ministers would officiate at funerals in the north of the Circuit.

The Youth worker with volunteers has been running the following groups of:

Drop in after school on a Monday night Youth Alpha group which has now grown to a question and chat group

Kids Activity Club- Group for those in primary school

TBD group- a group to grow skills and running of a social enterprise

3 o'clock club- formally known as adult youth club, this is a group for adults to use and do what happens at the youth club

Youth club- traditional youth club

All groups have grown and are well attended.

Along with these groups, we have been looking at developing the garden at the back of Brigg Methodist church. We have had paths put in, along with two raised beds, some trees and a bench.

We also run a Community Meal Night every month, which we run jointly with Oikos. The children and young people cook with the youth workers, and the adults cook with Hannah Dobson. We then come together and eat the meal and clean up together.

In the summer holidays, we enjoyed going to Broughton, Caistor and Market Rasen to support the groups there. We also ran groups in Brigg. We ran 4 children's activities, 4 young people activities, 1 day trip for children and 1 for young people and a family trip. We went to Wild Pines Park with the children for the day and Welton Waters Activity Centre with the young people. On the family trip we went to The Forbidden Corner. Every month we have a family service, joint with St. John's Church.

We usually have a good turnout. The service includes songs, dancing, activities relating to the service and afterwards, food. We continue to help with Broughton Prayer Spaces in Schools too. This happens twice a month and they are activities that happen at lunchtime that children can join in with, if they wish.

Lay Pastoral Worker Report - During the past year, whilst I have been working full-time I have engaged in more of the activities I had done in the previous year. In addition to this, for the last year I represented the circuit on the governing body of the West Wold Federation of Grasby and Caistor Schools. I have conducted funerals in 9 of the churches in the circuit and performed services at 3 of the local crematoria. I have attended activities and events associated with every church in the circuit. I have visited members and associates of the church community in 7 of the hospitals in and around the region. I have visited at least 26 care homes in and around our circuit. I have made innumerable visits, both requested and suggested, to members and adherents across the whole circuit. I continue to find my work inspiring and enjoyable. I am pleased that as people get to know me they are able to have more spiritual conversations.

We now have a role outline for all roles in the churches and circuit with safer recruitment a priority. Safeguarding oversight for the Circuit safeguarding officers is now in place

#### **Staffing from September 2025**

Following stationing in November 2024 we were delighted to be matched with Rev. John Schofield, who will be the second Minister in the Circuit from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2025

#### **Plans for the Future**

To develop team Ministry. The two ordained Presbyters to work across the Circuit:

Rev. Roberts to focus on; Superintendency, Discipleship, Bible Study and Spiritual Formation (Inward looking)

Rev. Schofield to focus on; Outreach, Mission and Evangelism (Outward looking).

The Lay Pastoral Workers hours to be 25 hours per week as per original contract.

We are also continuing to review the following:

- Property - overseeing schemes
- Property - helping churches review their buildings
- Finance - a team to help chapels do their accounts
- Finance - a team who can look over cash-flow/trends/budgets etc
- What other admin areas could we streamline?
- Is there newsletter/website we could streamline? Co-ordinating Connexional or local news?
- GDPR
- Digital church
- Work with young people
- Work with Third Age groups
- Eco-church matters – particularly installing solar panels on manses

All of the above, we will continue to discuss and develop through 2025-26.

## Financial review

The Circuit is in a good financial position. The accounts show a total income of £274,315, with the following principal sources:-

- Assessment on Churches in Circuit £173,842
- Grants (youth work) £ 20,450
- Other income was derived from the letting of the manses not occupied by presbyters together with bank and Central Finance Board interest payments

The Circuit had a corresponding expenditure of £259,599 with the following principal sources:-

- Stipends, salaries, NIC, pension and travel £56,436
- Manse costs £77,954
- Administrative costs £89,490
- District Assessment £3200

The Circuit had nett deficit of £15,744 for the 2024/25 financial year.

The total cash funds held as at 31st August 2025 was £67,767 and the total investments was £304,337

The Circuit has a Reserves Policy which prioritises mission for the use of these financial reserves. It also has also set up a loan scheme which, though repayable, is available for any church experiencing unforeseen expenditure that cannot be covered by its own reserves.

THE METHODIST CHURCH  
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Barton, Brigg & Wolds

Circuit

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 August 2025

District

Circuit no

17/11

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1132257

If not a registered charity His Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242 )

Ministers:

Rev Robert L Roberts

Circuit Stewards:

Ms Sandra Burniston (Treasurer)

Janet Faulkner

Mrs Kate Marr

Mrs Anne Morgan

Mrs Joyce Harris

Mr Brian Cook

Mr Ian Short

Book Keeper

Mr John McCartney

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS						
a2	Assessment/Share		173,842			173,842	174,953
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		4,036			4,036	5,967
a5	Grants				20,450	20,450	64,056
a6	Other receipts		54,405			54,405	29,339
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		232,283		20,450	252,733 (a8)	274,315

SECTION B							
	PAYMENTS						
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		56,436			56,436	115,474
b3	Manse Costs		77,954			77,954	40,620
b4	Administration etc		89,490			89,490	52,417
b5	District Assessment		43,200			43,200	44,724
b6	Grants & donations		691			691	1,000
b7							
b8	Other payments		706			706	5,364
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		268,477			268,477 (b9)	259,599

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(36,194)		20,450	(15,744)	14,716
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		19,455		64,056	83,511 (c6)	68,795
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(16,739)		84,506	67,767	83,511
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	(16,739)		84,506	67,767 (c8)	83,511 (c6)

SECTION D						
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					



**SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING****SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		Receipts		Payments		Net Receipts/ Payments		Adjustments		Opening balances		Closing balances	
e1													
e2													
e3													
e4													
e5													
e6													
e7													
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds										(e11)		(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	252,733	(a8)	268,477	(b9)	(15,744)		(c7)	83,511	(c6)		67,767	(c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	252,733		268,477		(15,744)			83,511	(x)		67,767	(y)
		TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL PAYMENTS									

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

**SECTION F****STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	75,371	57,751
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	8,140	10,016
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	83,511 (c6)	67,767 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	83,511 (x)	67,767 (y)

**SECTION G****OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	A1 1 September 2024	A1 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	303738	304337
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,902,098	1,908,320
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		


14 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

15 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer .....  ..... Date 19/2/2026  
Name and address of treasurer HILLCREST, NORMANBY ROAD, NETTLETON  
MARKET RASEN, LINCOLNSHIRE ..... Post Code LN7 6TA

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be\*  
presented to the Circuit meeting held on 19 FEB 2026

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....  .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Robert Roberts

Date 19 FEB 2026

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Barton, Brigg & Wolds Circuit

Charity Number: 1132257

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Barton, Brigg & Wolds Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

\* delete or circle as appropriate



**Independent Examiner's Statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not\* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner CSEN

Name of independent examiner CARRIE JENSEN

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACA

Name of firm (where appropriate) FORRESTER BOYD

Address 26 SOUTH ST. MARY'S GATE, GRIMSBY

Post Code DN31 1LW

Date 18/12/25

\* delete or circle as appropriate